

Best Places to Dine Outdoors

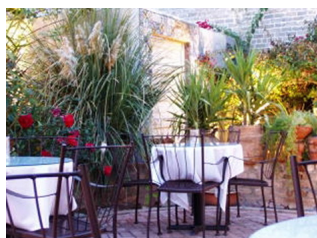
Written by Written by Veronica Jones

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With the weather heating up it is finally time to head out and eat on some of the Valley's prettiest patios.



El Zocalo - Chandler



Located in the heart of the historic Downtown Chandler, this authentic Mexican grill's patio may be one of the Valley's best-kept secrets. The tables are surrounded by orange trees and flowers making almost every spot in this secret garden seem private. The tiny lights hanging from the trees makes it the perfect romantic date spot. And with more than 60 different tequilas, it's the ideal place to enjoy a tasty margarita under the stars. 480.722.0303 www.elzocalo.com

SASSI - Scottsdale



In one of Scottsdale's most popular spots for fine Italian dining and wine, the Old World decor will have you dreaming of relaxing in Southern Italy. With amazing views of the city lights from the base of Pinnacle Peak, diners will feel like they are miles away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. As you take in the scenery, diners pick from a wine list of more 200 Italian wines and a menu of homemade pasta dishes. If you and your date think the patio is pretty enough, feel free to come back and use it as the venue for a romantic wedding.

480.502.9095 www.sassi.biz

Quiessence - Phoenix



Featuring some of Phoenix's finest contemporary American cuisine, Quiessence is a quiet but beautiful little spot in the Farm at South Mountain. This is a great place for guests to trade in the loud and busy city for the peace and quiet of the local farm. The menu changes everyday, depending on what the chefs think is the freshest food out there. With both an outdoor oven and fire pit, visitors can cozy up for a delicious home-cooked meal among beautiful lights and flowers. 602.276.0601 www.quiessencerestaurant.com

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T. Cook's - Scottsdale



Nestled into the luxurious Royal Palms Resort and Spa, T. Cook's brings Spain to the Valley. With two different patios, the south side will give guests a view of the Vernadero Lawn's gorgeous landscape while the north side offers breathtaking panoramas of Camelback Mountain. Visitors can enjoy the beauty of the patios yearround with a heated floor and portable heaters in winter and ceiling fans and misters during the summer. If you want to enjoy a romantic dinner on the wrought iron tables, talk to the resort's Director of Romance Robert Vickrey to make your night even more perfect. 602.808.0766 www.royalpalmsshotel.com